APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No: 81 asked by Sri B. Bhima Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 7th January 1950, page 937 supra.]

Kesari Dhall—Stocks—Export outside this Province permitted.

In August 1948, this Government issued a Press Note, indicating that Kesari gram, Kesari dhall and their products are unwholesome and unfit for human consumption and are harmful to the health of the people. The public and prospective importers of these articles were also informed that the sale or the exposure or hawking about for sale or the keeping storage or preparation for sale, of these articles should constitute an offence under section 108 (1) (b) of the Madras Public Health Act, 1939, and that action was liable to be taken under section 314 of the Madras City Municipalities Act or section 274 of the Madras District Municipalities Act.

In spite of the warning some merchants have imported into this province large quantities of Kesari dhall and its products. Their plea is that these articles are not considered poisonous in other provinces. They request that, in case the Government cannot permit their sale in this province, they may at least be allowed to export their stocks outside. This Government cannot accept their plea that these articles are not considered poisonous in other provinces. They are concerned only with this province and not other provinces. So far as their province is concerned, they are convinced as a result of a careful scientific investigation, that these articles are poisonous and not fit for human consumption. They do not, therefore, propose to reconsider their attitude taken in their Press Note of August 1948. Considering the financial loss, the merchants would be put to if their stocks are ordered to be destroyed, the Government however, as a matter of grace, grant them the concession that they should export their stocks outside the province within a period of 3 months from 1st November 1949. If they fail to do so, action will be taken for the destruction of the stock as indicated in the Press Note of August 1948, and no representations for deferring such action will be entertained.